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DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 JUL 2004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants: Biftu, et al.
Int. Appln. No: PCT/US03/32222
Int. Filing Date: 14 October 2003
US Appln. No.: To Be Assigned Case No.: 21247YP
Filed: Concurrently Herewith
For: BETA-AMINO HETEROCYCLIC DIPEPTIDYL
PEPTIDASE INHIBITORS FOR THE
TREATMENT OR PREVENTION OF DIABETES

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend this application as follows:

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE
DATE OF DEPOSIT JULY 9, 2004
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL98958890828
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE"
ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450,
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450.
MAILED BY [Signature]
DATE July 9, 2004